ST

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/1
19 May 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Organization of the work of the Committee
4. Programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights
5. Report of the Committee

64-09476

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

ST

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/2
3 June 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Note by the Secretary-General

1. At the request of the Government of Jamaica, an item entitled "Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights" was placed on the agenda of the eighteenth session of the General Assembly; it was allocated to the Third Committee for consideration and report.

2. At its 1279th plenary meeting on 12 December 1963, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Third Committee,[1] adopted resolution 1961 (XVIII) on the designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights, which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Noting that the year 1968 will be the twentieth anniversary of the adoption and proclamation by the General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

"Taking into account the fact that, since the adoption of the Declaration, a substantial measure of progress has been achieved in giving effect to these human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"Recognizing that in spite of such progress the effective realization of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Declaration remains unsatisfactory in some parts of the world,

"Believing that the cause of human rights will be well served by an increasing awareness of the extent of the progress made,

---

1/ See the report of the Third Committee (A/5660).

"Convinced that an appropriate way of celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration is to devote the year 1968 to intensified national and international efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights and also to an international review of the achievements in this field,

"Confident that the designation of the year 1968 as such a year of international review will encourage all Member States and interested organizations to intensify their efforts in the intervening years, so as to show the maximum possible progress by that time,

"1. Designates the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights;

"2. Requests the Economic and Social Council to invite the Commission on Human Rights at its forthcoming sessions, with the assistance of the Secretary-General:

"(a) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly, a programme of measures and activities representing a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights, to be undertaken by the United Nations, by Member States and by the specialized agencies during the year 1968, in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in furtherance of the objectives of the present resolution;

"(b) To prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly, suggestions for a list of goals in the field of human rights to be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968;

"(c) To submit the programme of measures and activities and the suggestions for the list of goals in time for their consideration by the General Assembly at its twentieth session;

"3. Invites the specialized agencies to render all assistance to the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken during the International Year for Human Rights in celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration;

"4. Invites all Member States to intensify their domestic efforts in the field of human rights with the assistance of their appropriate organizations, in order that a fuller and more effective realization of these rights and freedoms might be achieved and might be reported at the proposed international review of such achievements in 1968 and thereafter."

3. On 17 December 1963 the Economic and Social Council, at its resumed thirty-sixth session, decided to forward the Assembly's resolution to the Commission on Human Rights.

/...

4. The Commission on Human Rights considered the item, "Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights," at its 812th meeting on 14 March 1964.1/

5. In resolution 6 (XX) the Commission noted General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII) designating the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights and shared the view of the General Assembly that, in spite of the substantial measure of progress which has been achieved in giving effect to human rights and fundamental freedoms since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the effective realization of these rights and freedoms remains unsatisfactory in some parts of the world. Bearing in mind the broad objectives of achieving a set of goals in the field of human rights not later than 1968, and the preparation of a programme of measures and activities in the field of human rights to be undertaken by Member Governments and the specialized agencies during the year 1968, the Commission decided "that a Committee consisting of thirty-four members appointed from Permanent Delegations shall meet prior to the 1965 session, after consultation with the Secretary-General, to recommend a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken by Member States, the United Nations and specialized agencies in celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms." The Commission further decided "that, as a part of its terms of reference, the Committee should give special thought to the possibility of holding an International Conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights, and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year."

6. At its 814th meeting on 18 March 1964 the Commission decided that invitations to appoint representatives to the Committee established by operative paragraph 1 of resolution 6 (XX) should be addressed to all the States members of the Commission

---

1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 37th session, Supplement No. 8, (E/3873) Chapter VII, resolution 6 (XX); and Chapter XI, draft resolution III.

on Human Rights and to the other co-sponsors of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII), namely: Afghanistan, Argentina, Brazil, Ghana, Guatemala, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda and Uruguay.

7. In resolution 6 (XX), the Commission also requested the Economic and Social Council to recommend to the General Assembly, for consideration at its nineteenth session, a draft resolution on the International Year for Human Rights, the text of which is annexed hereto. The Commission's request will be considered by the Council at its thirty-seventh session, to be convened on Monday, 13 July 1964 at Geneva.

ANNEX

DESIGNATION OF 1968 AS INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

(Draft resolution for consideration by the General Assembly)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1961 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963 designating the year 1968 as International Year for Human Rights,

Recognizing the need for effective measures to be taken as both the international and the national levels to encourage the further development of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Reaffirming the belief that the cause of human rights will be well served by an increasing awareness of the extent of the progress made, and the conviction that the year 1968 should be devoted to intensified national and international efforts and undertakings in the field of human rights and also to an international review of the achievements in this field,

Convinced that an intensification of efforts in the intervening years will heighten the progress that can be made by 1968,

1. Recommends that all Member States be invited to ratify before 1968 the Conventions already concluded in the field of human rights, and in particular, the following:

Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade and Institutions and practices similar to Slavery;

ILO Convention Concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour;

ILO Convention on Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation;

ILO Convention concerning Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers for Work of Equal Value;

UNESCO Convention Against Discrimination in Education;

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide;

Convention on the Political Rights of Women;

2. Decides to hasten the conclusion of the following draft Conventions so that they may be open for ratification and accession before 1968:

Draft Covenant on civil and political rights;

Draft Covenant on economic, social and cultural rights;

/...

Draft International Convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;

Draft International Convention on the elimination of all forms of religiou intolerance;

Draft Convention on freedom of information;

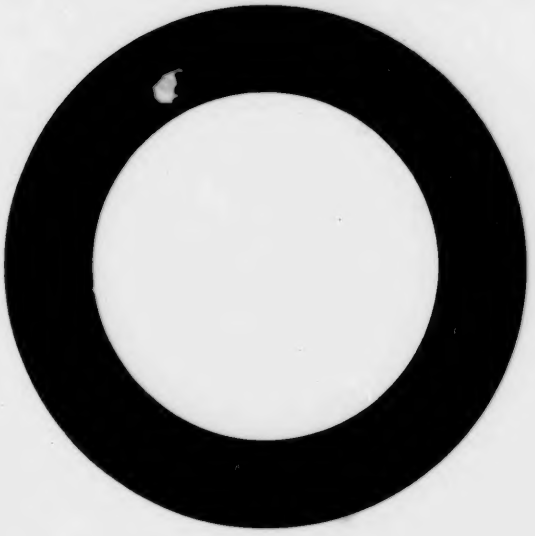
3. Decides to complete by 1968 the consideration and preparation of the following draft declarations:

Draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination in the matter of political rights;

Draft declaration on the elimination of discrimination in relation to wome

Draft declaration on the right of asylum;

Draft declaration on freedom of information.



UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

ST

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/3
25 June 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Working Paper Submitted by the Chairman in Collaboration with the Officers of the Committee

1. As requested by the Committee at its first meeting on 9 June 1964, I submit herewith a working paper setting out some guiding principles for the Committee's work with specific proposals for consideration by the Committee. In the phrases of the summary record of that meeting, the Committee desired that the proposals should be prepared by the Chairman with the assistance of the Secretariat and in collaboration with the other officers of the Committee. I have interpreted this to mean that the Committee wishes to have the proposals of the Bureau, and whereas this working paper is presented strictly in accordance with the terminology of the decision, I wish to make it clear that I was accorded the fullest co-operation of the other members of the Bureau. Where, however, any proposal in this working paper does not have the endorsement of all the other members of the Bureau, the fact that it does not is so stated.

The Committee's Terms of Reference

2. The Committee has been appointed in accordance with a decision of the Commission on Human Rights accorded in resolution 6 (XX), adopted on 14 March 1964. In terms of this resolution, the Committee has been appointed -

> "to recommend a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken by Member States, the United Nations and specialized agencies in celebration of the 20th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

3. As part of its terms of reference, the Committee has been requested to give special thought -

> "to the possibility of holding an International Conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights, and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year".

4. The programme of measures and activities recommended by the Committee is intended ultimately to be considered by the General Assembly. This is stated in resolution 1961 (XVIII) which is referred to in resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights. From the resolution of the Assembly it appears that the programme should represent a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights. It appears further that, in the intention of the Assembly, the International Year for Human Rights will be devoted in part to an international review of the achievements in the field of human rights. The Committee has accordingly been invited by the Commission to consider whether an international conference will be an appropriate medium or forum within which the suggested review might be carried out.

5. Resolution 1961 (XVIII) expresses the Assembly's confidence that the designation of 1968 as a year of international review will encourage not only all Member States but "interested organizations" to intensify their efforts (in the field of human rights) in the intervening years so as to show the maximum possible progress by that time. It is considered appropriate, therefore, that the Committee should give consideration to ways and means of intensifying national and international efforts in the period between 1964 and 1968 and further, that the recommended programme should be consistent with the practices which have been followed hitherto in United Nations human rights programmes and should contemplate activities by inter-governmental organizations, by national Governments and by non-governmental organizations.

6. In the light of the foregoing, I recommend that the Committee should consider its programme of work and present its report under the following headings:

Part I - A programme of observances and activities to be carried out during International Year for Human Rights including celebrations to be undertaken on Human Rights Day 1968. The programme should include observances and activities:

(a) by inter-governmental organizations;

(b) by Governments;[1/]

(c) by non-governmental organizations.

Part II - Conclusions on the possibility that an International Conference might be held in 1968 to review progress in the field of human rights, etc.

Part III - Suggestions for the intensification of national and international efforts in the field of human rights during the period up to 1968, including certain additional objectives which might be achieved by 1968. Here too the suggestions should contemplate efforts by inter-governmental organizations, by national Governments and by non-governmental organizations.

The proposals in this working paper are presented under the headings set out above.

7. It is probably unnecessary to emphasize the fact that the proposals and guiding principles represent no more than preliminary proposals by the Chairman and members of the Bureau with the assistance of the Secretariat, and are intended to stimulate and encourage thought and debate within the Committee. The Bureau expresses the hope that comments will be forthcoming from the members of the Committee on every proposal in this working paper, and that, moreover, the ideas set out in the working paper will stimulate members to put forward proposals of their own.

1/ In the opinion of some members of the Bureau, the invitation to participate in the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights should be limited to States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies. In the opinion of at least one member, it is desirable that the invitation should be extended to all States. Wherever the term "governments of member states" is used in this working paper, it will be understood to mean Governments of Member States and States members of the specialized agencies. Where the term "member states" is used, it will be understood to mean Member States of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies. The Committee will decide whether the invitation to participate in the celebrations should be extended to all Governments or to all Member States.

Consultation with other Organizations

8. The Bureau was pleased to note that the Commission on Human Rights has expressly requested the Committee to prepare the programme in consultation with the Secretary-General. The Bureau suggests that all Member States of the United Nations, not only those represented on the Committee, should be given the opportunity to make suggestions with a view to having their suggestions included in the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in celebration of the anniversary and in the furtherance of human rights and fundamental freedoms. In view of the interest which many non-governmental organizations have taken in the human rights programme up to now these organizations also should be encouraged to assist the Committee in its work by making suggestions in regard to measures and activities which might form part of the programme, particularly measures which they themselves might undertake on an international level.

9. In keeping with the above, it is recommended that, after a preliminary discussion on this working paper, the Committee should draw the attention of the Secretary-General to the proposals in the paper together with the record of the debate in the Committee, and ask for his advice on views on the programme of measures and activities which might be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights. It is proposed further, that the Committee should request the Secretary-General to communicate with:

(a) Governments of States Members;

(b) the specialized agencies;

(c) interested non-governmental organizations having consultative status;

and invite them to submit not later than 15 September 1964 their views and suggestions on the programme presented in this paper and also on the idea that an international review conference should be held during 1968. These suggestions and views, supplementing those put forward by members of the Committee, would undoubtedly be valuable to the preparation of a definitive programme.

Future Work of the Committee

10. At its first meeting, the Committee did not make decisions in regard to the scope of its future work, lest such decisions be premature. The Bureau wishes to point out, however, that it will be necessary to collate and analyse any

suggestions and views which may be received from Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, so as to present these suggestions in coherent form for consideration by the Committee. This task should begin immediately after 15 September and the Committee will no doubt wish to consider by whom it should be undertaken.

11. When this collation of suggestions has been completed, the Committee will wish to meet again and to complete its work. It is suggested that we should have in mind, as a target date, the adoption of our report prior to the opening of the nineteenth session of the General Assembly.

Part I

Programme of Measures and Activities to be Carried out during Human Rights Year

12. In your Bureau's opinion the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken throughout the International Year for Human Rights should be calculated to bring home to all the people the breadth of the concept of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all its aspects. The ceremonies and celebrations should be such as to dramatize the deeper meaning of individual liberty, and to illustrate how narrow is the dividing line between a scrupulous observance of the obligation to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms in our political, economic and social relationships and an effective denial of these rights.

A Calendar of Activities

13. It is recommended, therefore, that a series of subjects dealing with particular aspects of human rights should be selected and continuing attention focussed on each of these subjects throughout a particular period of the International Year for Human Rights. There would be advantage in having all ceremonies concentrated on the same subject for the same period. International and regional seminars as well as national conferences, lectures and discussions should be concerned with these subjects at the same time. During each period Governments would review, against the standards set by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, their domestic legislation and the practices within their society in respect of the particular right or freedom which is the subject of that period's observances. They would assess the extent to which the right or freedom had been effectively secured and would give publicity to it and make special efforts to promote amongst their citizens a basic understanding of the nature and significance of this particular right so that the gains already made might not easily be lost in the future. To the extent that the right or freedom had not yet been effectively secured, every effort would be made during the period towards its achievement. Following the precedent of the International Co-operation Year, the Committee might consider devoting one month of the year to each subject, or alternatively might select six subjects only and devote two

months of the year to each subject. Priority could be given in the choice of the subjects to those which will encourage the widest possible participation on the part of Member States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations.

14. The following are the subjects which the members of the Bureau have proposed:

Freedom of information

The Rights of the Child and the Family

The right to work and recreation (as set out in articles 23 and 24 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

Equality before the law

Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

Freedom from racial discrimination

Freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention or exile

The right to social security

The right to education

Freedom from arbitrary interference with one's privacy, family, home or correspondence, and attacks upon his honour and reputation

Advancement of the status of women

The right of all peoples to self-determination.

15. Members of the Committee will no doubt wish to put forward other subjects for consideration. The Committee is invited to decide how many subjects should be selected and what period should be devoted to each.

Measures of Implementation

16. Measures for the effective implementation of the rights and freedoms which are the subject of the Universal Declaration have been under consideration in the United Nations for many years. In the draft covenants on civil and political rights and on economic, social and cultural rights, the main outstanding questions now seem to be whether one form of international machinery or another, or any international machinery at all, aimed at ensuring implementation of these agreements should be provided for.

17. Members of the Bureau have expressed the hope that by the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights, the two draft convenants mentioned above and the other covenants or international agreements in the field of human rights which

have been listed in the draft resolution prepared by the Commission on Human Rights for consideration by the Assembly will have been completed, and that provision for effective implementation of these agreements will form part of the instruments. If by the beginning of the International Year for Human Rights this is not the case, we would consider it appropriate that an international effort towards the provision of effective implementation should form part of the celebrations of the year, including consultation with Member States on the establishment or activation of international or regional organs to which every natural person, every duly constituted group of individuals and every recognized non-governmental organization could bring their complaints of violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

18. However, in the opinion of some members of the Bureau, the effective operation of machinery within the territories of each Member State which will ensure that the human rights and freedoms guaranteed by its constitution, or by international covenants, conventions or treaties to which that State is party, are realized in practice is a matter of the greatest importance. We are convinced that national machinery for implementation should receive attention in the activities of the International Year for Human Rights. Accordingly, it is recommended that as one of the measures to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, all Member States should be invited to establish or refine their national machinery for giving effect to these rights and freedoms, and that if arrangements do not exist which enable individual citizens or groups of citizens to bring before independent national tribunals or authorities any complaints they may have concerning the violation of their human rights and obtain effective remedies, such arrangements will be introduced before the end of 1968.1/

Other Activities

19. The Bureau reviewed the suggestions and recommendations which were approved by ECOSOC in connexion with the celebration of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1963 and endeavoured to see to what extent similar suggestions and recommendations might be appropriate to the

1/ The recommendation that provisions relating to implementation should be considered by the Committee was not unanimous.

celebrations to be carried out during the International Year for Human Rights. The results of our consideration of this matter are set out below. (Those ceremonies which should take place at the beginning of the Year, or throughout the Year, are distinguished from those which are appropriate to Human Rights Day.)

A. Observances by Inter-Governmental Organizations

(1) Observances appropriate to the whole of International Year or to the beginning of the Year

20. It is suggested that the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the heads of the specialized agencies and the executive secretaries of the regional economic commissions issue special messages to be released on 1 January 1968 on the International Year for Human Rights, such messages to be widely circulated by all communications media, including the satellites.

It is suggested that the Secretary-General:

(a) Issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968 and arrange for special cancellations during 1968;

(b) Promote the widest and most intensive dissemination of the Declaration in as many languages as possible by means of suitably printed and appropriately set out posters, leaflets, and pamphlets before and during 1968;

(c) Prepare and publish new pamphlet on The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, specifically for the International Year for Human Rights;

(d) Prepare a radio documentary script on the Declaration; encourage and assist broadcasting and television organizations, as appropriate, in the production of documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights;

(e) Design and make available to Member States and States Members of the specialized agencies a poster symbolizing the concept of human rights for national reproduction and distribution during the International Year for Human Rights;

(f) Urge United Nations officers at Headquarters, in information centres and regional offices to give lectures and write articles on the Declaration and to co-operate with information media and educational authorities

in various countries in organizing the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights;

(g) Request the distributors of United Nations publications to prepare a special display of relevant United Nations documents during the months of November and December 1968.

The specialized agencies

21. (a) The specialized agencies should be invited to organize at their Headquarters commemorative ceremonies on the 20th Anniversary of the Declaration;

(b) The specialized agencies should devote special issues of their magazines to the International Year for Human Rights, particularly to those rights and freedoms within their purview, and, if possible, hold round-table discussions;

(c) The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should consider the possibility of promoting the performance of the exhibition during 1968 of notable musical, dramatic or artistic works which are illustrative of the themes of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(d) The Universal Postal Union should consider the possibility of requesting its Member States to issue human rights stamps and first-day covers on 1 January 1968 and provide special cancellations during 1968;

(e) The International Labour Organisation should consider the possibility of inviting the workers' and employers' organizations with which it has a relationship to take action during 1968 aimed at publicizing at least those parts of the Declaration which fall within the scope of those organizations.

(2) Observances on Human Rights Day 1968

22. The United Nations should consider organizing at Headquarters a special meeting of the General Assembly on 10 December 1968, in commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Declaration. Surviving members of the Commission on Human Rights who participated in the drafting of the Declaration might be invited to be present at this meeting.

23. The Secretary-General should organize a concert to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Declaration, the concert to be broadcast and televised to all parts of the world.

B. By States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies

24. It is suggested:

(a) That Governments formally proclaim 1968 to be International Year for Human Rights Year and observe it as such;

(b) That Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification or acceptance in any other form of existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres;

(c) That Heads of State or of Government issue special messages at the beginning of the Human Rights Year reaffirming faith in the dignity and worth of the human person and dedication to the implementation of the Declaration;

(d) That Governments consider entrusting the organization of the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights to an existing institution or an ad hoc committee set up for this purpose;

(e) That Governments consider the proclamation of the International Year for Human Rights as a year of amnesty and other measures of clemency to political or other prisoners;

(f) That Governments consider the issuance of human rights stamps, and first-day covers on 1 January 1968 and provide special cancellations during the Human Rights Year.

25. Governments might also wish:

(a) To disseminate, or to co-operate with the United Nations in disseminating, the text of the Declaration in national or local languages;

NOTE: One member of the Bureau expressed the opinion that the celebration of the Twentieth Anniversary of the Declaration should encompass all States in accordance with Article 55 (c) of the Charter of the United Nations. Other members of the Bureau noted that Article 55 (c) of the Charter regards respect and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and not participation in activities of the United Nations system.

(b) To encourage, as appropriate, schools and universities to hold special meetings on Human Rights Year and to organize special courses or seminars on human rights;

(c) To encourage, as appropriate, national organizations (such as human rights committees, United Nations associations, UNESCO's national commissions, trade unions, religious organizations, academic or professional associations and youth organizations) to hold national or regional conferences during the International Year for Human Rights with a view to discussing problems of human rights;

(d) To consider or encourage the production of documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights, and the reading of the text of the Declaration, on radio or television;

(e) To promote the performance or exhibition, in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, of notable musical, dramatic or artistic works which are illustrative of the themes of human rights and fudamental freedoms;

(f) To consider the possibility of granting special honours or awards during the International Year for Human Rights to persons who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of human rights.

C. By non-governmental organizations

26. It is suggested that interested non-governmental organizations, international or national, be invited:

(a) To adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or articles thereof, as appropriate, as the themes of their annual or special conferences in 1968;

(b) To organize commemorative ceremonies on the International Year for Human Rights;

(c) To print and distribute the text of the Declaration, and prepare and publish pamphlets, leaflets and posters on the Declaration;

(d) To establish awards, if possible, to honour persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of human rights to be given during the International Year for Human Rights;

(e) To organize community projects, such as panel discussions on local problems of human rights, children's parades and display of the United Nations flag in school and business buildings;

(f) To encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration;

(g) To display on 10 December 1968 the United Nations flag on public buildings, which might be illuminated;

(h) To reproduce and distribute United Nations posters on human rights themes during 1968;

(i) To reproduce and distribute the United Nations poster on the Declaration during 1968;

(j) That schools and universities hold special assemblies with frequent intervals and organize courses or seminars on human rights during the International Year for Human Rights;

(k) That research institutions and universities consider the publication during the International Year for Human Rights of historic declarations of human rights, famous bills of human rights and great orations and speeches on human rights, with appropriate commentaries or annotations.

27. It is further suggested:

(a) That special religious services be held on the 20th Anniversary of the Declaration; (This suggestion was not unanimous.)

(b) That radio and television networks carry special programmes, and newspapers publish editorials, on the International Year for Human Rights, of Declaration to be read or reprinted in whole or in part, if possible; that information media organize public debates on great issues of freedom.

Part II

International Conference on Human Rights in 1968

28. The Bureau has given some thought to the question whether an international conference would provide an effective medium or forum for the contemplated international review. The Bureau considered first whether a conference is technically a suitable instrument for carrying out the three functions which are listed in the Committee's terms of reference, viz:

(1) a review of progress;

(2) the evaluation of the effectiveness of techniques currently in use; and

(3) the preparation of a programme for future activities.

29. In the opinion of the Bureau there is no doubt that a conference could satisfactorily discharge functions Nos. 1 and 3. The Bureau has also concluded that function No. 2 above could be satisfactorily discharged by a conference, provided that certain necessary expert studies are undertaken beforehand and their results made available to the intending participants before the conference opens.

30. The Bureau next considered what sort of international conference it should be. Among the possibilities it considered are:

(1) to request one of the specialized agencies to devote the whole or part of its annual meeting in 1968 to this review;

(2) to devote part of the regular session of the General Assembly for the purpose; and

(3) to call a conference specifically for these tasks in which all Members of the United Nations and all States members of the specialized agencies could take part.

31. It seemed to us that neither (1) nor (2) above would be entirely satisfactory.

32. A conference called specifically to undertake the suggested tasks would have to be so timed as to avoid conflict with the regular session of the General Assembly.

33. The Bureau suggests that the desirability of organizing a separate and specific international conference on human rights be considered by the Committee as an urgent matter, as plans would have to be made well in advance if the

conference is to be a success. In this connexion the Bureau suggests that, should the Committee decide to recommend the convening of such a conference, the following arrangements might be made:

(a) The conference could be held either at the Headquarters of the United Nations or at the European Office in Geneva; unless a Member State offers to act host to the conference;

(b) The conference could be convened for a period of four weeks;

(c) Provision could be made for three meetings to proceed simultaneously;

(d) Provision could be made for the United Nations to defray the travel costs of one representative from each Member State;

(e) Provision could be made for two expert consultants to prepare certain basic documentation.

34. Some members of the Committee will recall that when the representative of Costa Rica in the Commission on Human Rights had proposed at its twentieth session that an International Conference on Human Rights should be convened in 1968, the Secretary-General in a statement of the financial implications of the proposal had indicated (E/CN.4/L.717/Add.1) that the preparation of detailed cost estimates for the holding of such a conference would require decisions on the scope (including the provisional agenda), the type of participants, the place and date of the conference, and its duration. At the same time the Secretary-General had advised the Commission that the Second World Population Conference, which might be considered to be somewhat comparable, is estimated to cost on the order of $400,000.

35. Members of the Bureau obtained information concerning the cost estimate for the Second World Population Conference (E/CN.9/177/Add.1) and found that that Conference presents different characteristics from the contemplated International Conference on Human Rights. In particular, the Second World Population Conference is a non-governmental conference convened by the Council under the rules for the calling of such conferences approved by the General Assembly in resolution 479 (V), while the International Conference on Human Rights would be an international conference of States called by the Council under rules approved by the General Assembly in resolution 366 (IV). Moreover, the estimated costs to the United Nations of holding the World Population Conference include provision for the

reproduction of 700 papers, of 500 to 2,000 words each, before the Conference opens, and for the editing, translation and printing of three volumes of papers and proceedings, in three languages, after the Conference closes. Accordingly, it is suggested that the Committee request the Secretary-General to prepare a revised cost estimate, based on such of the assumptions set out in paragraph 22 above as may be accepted by the Committee, and including alternative estimates to the costs to be incurred if the conference were to be held (a) in New York or (b) in Geneva.

36. The conference, if it is to be successful, will have to be carefully planned and prepared, and a Preparatory Committee, consisting of representatives of a number of Member States, should be established to perform this function including the recommendation of a provisional agenda for the conference.

37. The Bureau considers that the Committee might wish to have the benefit of the views of Member States concerning the possibility that a conference of the kind contemplated might be held. In that event, the Secretary-General could be requested to ascertain from Member States, in the course of the consultation recommended earlier in this paper, their attitude to such a conference and their views concerning the place and date of its convening.

Part III

Suggestions for the Intensification of National Efforts in the field of Human Rights during the period up to 1968

Additional Goals or Objectives

38. The Commission on Human Rights has drawn up a list of goals in the field of human rights which might be achieved by the United Nations not later than the end of 1968. This list has been embodied in a draft resolution which the Commission has requested the Economic and Social Council to recommend to the General Assembly for consideration at its nineteenth session. It occurred to your Bureau, as we examined this list of goals, that the General Assembly might be requested to consider adding one convention to the list of international instruments which should be completed and opened for ratification before the end of 1968 - a Convention on the Rights of the Child and of the Family.

39. The Committee will no doubt also wish to express its satisfaction at the fact that the Committee on the International Co-operation Year has mentioned two of the Conventions in the list drawn up by the Commission on Human Rights:

> The Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, Slave Trade, and institutions and practices similar to Slavery (7 September 1956);
>
> The Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (9 December 1948);

and has recommended that all Member States which have not yet done so should become parties to these Conventions before the end of 1965.

40. Believing that certain practices which constitute some of the grosser forms of the denial of human rights still persist within the territories of some Member States, it is considered that the complete elimination of these practices might be set before the United Nations as additional objectives to be achieved by the end of the International Year for Human Rights. These additional objectives would be:

(1) the elimination of slavery, the slave trade and forced labour;

(2) the elimination of all forms of discrimination based upon race, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status;

(3) the elimination of colonialism and the achievement of freedom and independence by all countries.

(On the inclusion here of this last objective opinion in the Bureau was not unanimous.)

41. In considering the question of the proposed intensification of national and international effort in the field of human rights, the Bureau has borne in mind the fact that an extensive programme of activity in this field is now in progress in which the United Nations, the specialized agencies, national governments and non-governmental organizations are already involved. It can be assumed that each Member State will wish to respond in its own way to the invitation expressed in the fourth operative paragraph of General Assembly resolution 1961 (XVIII). For this reason, the Committee might not consider it wise to propose that a wide variety of measures should be added by Member States to their existing programmes. Instead, the Assembly might be asked to consider inviting all Member States to make a special effort during this period in two particular spheres:

(i) in the sphere of their national legislation; and

(ii) in the sphere of education towards a fuller realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

National Advisory Committees

42. It is recommended that the Committee should invite all Governments of Member States to consider establishing advisory committees on their national legislation composed of independent and impartial individuals of outstanding calibre and including jurists of recognized reputation. These committees could be requested:

to examine the national constitution or fundamental law and all existing national legislation against the standard of the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to consider in what respects the legislation falls short of this standard, and to suggest to the Government the enactment of new or amending laws to bring the national legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration.

43. Wherever an organ already exists which could appropriately be charged with this duty, it is recommended that this organ should be requested by the Government to undertake the suggested review of the legislation.

44. The national advisory committees should be invited to endeavour to complete their examination and to submit their report not later than the end of the year 1967, in order that measures to give effect to any required improvement in the legislation may be introduced before the end of the International Year for Human Rights. Those Member States which administer Non-Self-Governing Territories would be expected to set up such national advisory committees in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for which they are responsible.

Education to promote respect for and observance of Human Rights and fundamental freedoms

45. Believing that there are limits to the effectiveness of laws in making the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms a reality, the Bureau is convinced that a concentration of effort on legal and institutional guarantees of human rights, although it will go far towards the achievement of objectives we seek, will not go all the way. Attention needs to be concentrated, in addition, on means of changing some old ways of thinking (on these subjects), and of rooting out deep-seated prejudices in regard to race, colour, sex, religion and so on. In short, it is necessary, in our view to embark upon a complementary programme of education, including both adult and child education, designed to produce new thinking on the part of many people in regard to human rights. Accordingly, it is recommended that an integral part of any programme of intensification of effort to be undertaken in the next three years should be a world-wide educational programme in human rights. This programme should aim at mobilizing some of the energies and resources of:

(a) universities, colleges and other institutions of higher learning within Member States;

(b) media of information and mass communication, including the press, radio and television;

(c) foundations and charitable, scientific and research institutions;

(d) the teaching staff of primary and secondary schools;

towards the education of the people, adults and children, about the state of human rights in their communities and elsewhere, and about the further steps which need to be taken in order to secure the fullest and most effective realization of these rights.

/...

46. It would guarantee the success of this educational effort if the initiative in organizing it could be taken by the political leaders within Member States. Within this effort, Governments could organize conferences of universities and other institutions of higher learning within their territories and invite them to consider how the curricula and their teaching programmes can be utilized to improve the awareness in the student population of the fundamental questions of human rights, how their research programmes might be directed to this end, and how they can co-operate with other interested organizations, through extra-mural and other programmes in furthering the aims of adult education in human rights. In this context, studies could be undertaken by national authorities of local customs and traditions with a view to examining how they may be fostering and encouraging attitudes or values contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and how these customs and traditions can be eventually eliminated. Charitable and philanthropic foundations might be invited to consider making grants for programmes of research and study in this field and to make bursaries and fellowships available for research in human rights. The faculties of colleges, and of elementary and secondary schools could be invited to review their curricula and textbooks in order to eradicate bias, intentional and unintentional, towards the preservation of ideas and concepts contrary to the principles of the Universal Declaration, and to introduce courses of study which positively promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

47. Governments might also convene, or give encouragement to the convening of, conferences amongst the radio and television broadcasting services within their territories, inviting them to consider how their facilities might most usefully co-operate with other organizations within the country, and with international agencies, in advancing the effort to educate the people into greater respect for individual rights and fundamental freedoms.

48. The specialized agencies of the United Nations, especially UNESCO and ILO, can make a particularly valuable contribution towards the intensification of this educational effort, and it is recommended that they should be especially invited to do so.

A history of the Declaration

49. In examining the suggestions and recommendations concerning the celebration of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, prepared by the Commission on Human Rights and approved by the Economic and Social Council in resolution 940 (XXXV), the Bureau noted that it had been suggested there that the United Nations should "consider, in connexion with arrangements for the Twentieth Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration in 1968, the preparation and publication of a history of the Declaration and other international instruments on human rights, with special reference to progress already achieved, current endeavours and work remaining to be done in the field of human rights, and with a brief and objective account of the role of the United Nations in the process of decolonialization".

50. The Bureau suggests that the Committee might wish to request the Secretary-General to proceed immediately with the preparation of the proposed publication, with a view to its wide circulation in connexion with the observance of the International Year for Human Rights. In this connexion the Bureau discussed the desirability of setting up an editorial board to provide the Secretary-General with any necessary guidance in the preparation of the publication. Such a Board might be composed of individuals representing various regions of the world.

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

ST

- ristr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/3/Corr.1
1 July 1964

ENGLISH AND FRENCH ONLY

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Working Paper Submitted by the Chairman in Collaboration with the Officers of the Committee

1. In paragraph 25, insert the following sub-paragraphs:

"(g) To display on 10 December 1968 the United Nations flag on public buildings, which might be illuminated;

(h) To reproduce and distribute United Nations posters on human rights themes during 1968;

(i) To reproduce and distribute the United Nations poster on the Declaration during 1968;"

2. In paragraph 26, delete sub-paragraphs (g), (h) and (i) and change "(j)" and "(k)" to read "(g)" and "(h)".

3. In paragraph 35, instead of "paragraph 22" read "paragraph 33".

64-14802

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/4
21 September 1964
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH/
SPANISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Agenda item 4

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Observations received from Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

	Page
INTRODUCTION	3
PART I: OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
Argentina	4
Canada	6
Costa Rica	9
Ecuador	9
Federal Republic of Germany	10
Greece	11
Jordan	12
Senegal	12
PART II: OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES	
International Telecommunication Union	13
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	13
Universal Postal Union	18
World Health Organization	19

CONTENTS (continued)

Page

PART III: OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Afro-Asian Organisation for Economic Co-operation 20

Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations 20

Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations 24

International Abolitionist Federation 30

World Confederation of Organizations of the Teaching Profession. . . . 30

International Federation of Senior Police Officers 31

Universal Esperanto Association 31

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the resolution adopted by the Committee at its fifth meeting on 10 July 1964 (ST/SG/AC.5/L.2 and Corr.1), the Secretary-General invited the States Members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies, and the interested non-governmental organizations having consultative status to offer, not later than 15 September 1964, their suggestions and proposals for the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights; and communicated to them for their information a working paper on this subject (ST/SG/AC.5/3) prepared by the Chairman of the Committee in collaboration with the other officers, and the summary records of the meetings of the Committee.

The observations received by the Secretary-General up to 15 September 1964 are presented in this memorandum.

PART I

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

ARGENTINA

[Original: Spanish]
20 August 1964

The Republic of Argentina has given practical evidence of its adherence to the Purpose enunciated in Article 1, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Charter - namely, "to achieve international co-operation" with a view to "promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion" - and of its strong support for all the efforts which the United Nations is making in this direction.

As a logical outcome of this attitude, it firmly supported the proposal, put forward by Jamaica at the eighteenth session of the General Assembly, that the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should be celebrated in an appropriate way in 1968 and that efforts to achieve full respect for human rights should be intensified.

While the importance of the work already being done in the field of human rights both by Member States at the national level and in the United Nations and the agencies connected with it is recognized, there is clearly a need to review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration in 1948, to evaluate the methods used so far and to consider the advisability of modifying them or adopting new ones if necessary. The Republic of Argentina therefore welcomes the idea of convening, in 1968, an international conference of government representatives to consider these matters. A conference would be better than a special session of the General Assembly, as the former would enable States which are not Members of the United Nations but are members of the specialized agencies to participate, thus bringing the representation closer to the universality which should characterize a meeting of this kind. If the 1968 conference is to be really fruitful, however, it must be organized on a strictly technical basis, due account being taken of the actual coexistence of different political and social systems and the possibilities of

international co-operation, and its terms of reference must be adjusted to the ultimate purpose of promoting, more than hitherto, efforts to ensure full respect for human rights throughout the world. It is also clear that adequate preparation must be made for the conference through the effecting of studies on the problems which it is to consider - such studies to be available to Governments earlier than is customary, in order that they can be considered by the Governments' competent bodies. The preparation of these studies or reports should be entrusted to the Secretariat and to groups of experts selected for their competence and as representatives of the different legal systems. It would certainly be useful to set up a Preparatory Committee consisting of representatives of Member States, as has been done for other important conferences.

As for the measures and activities to be undertaken in 1968, the Republic of Argentina finds acceptable the suggestion made in paragraph 12 of document ST/SG/AC.5/3 - namely, that the International Year for Human Rights "should be calculated to bring home to all the people the breadth of the concept of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all its aspects" and that the celebrations should be such as to dramatize the deeper meaning of individual liberty and illustrate how narrow is the dividing line between the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms and an effective denial of those rights.

The question of drawing up a list of subjects on which States and organizations would concentrare their attention during the Year presents certain difficulties. A long list with a great variety of subjects might meet different points of view; nevertheless, we think that it would be preferable for States and organizations to concentrate in 1968 on a few subjects carefully selected by the Committee, such as: equality before the law, the elimination of discrimination, the rights of the child and the family, and the advancement of the legal and social status of women. In addition, consideration should be given to the possibility of holding regional seminars in 1968 on the subjects selected, to coincide with the national activities in the same area.

As to measures for the implementation of the rights and freedoms enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, since the General Assembly will be discussing this problem at its next session when it considers the measures of implementation of the Covenants on Human Rights, no recommendation can be made on the subject until it is known what results have there been achieved.

The observances and activities to be carried out during 1968 and on Human Rights Day in that year by States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations, as suggested in paragraphs 20 to 27 of document ST/SG/AC.5/3, are acceptable as a general guide.

The idea of intensifying efforts in the field of human rights up to 1968, with a view to making more progress towards full observance of these rights, has the support of the Argentine Government. The objectives to be achieved during that period, as proposed in paragraph 40 of document ST/SG/AC.5/3, seem to reflect the importance and urgency of solving the problems at issue, and are acceptable. These objectives should be formulated as follows: 1. The elimination of slavery (including, of necessity, the institutions and practices similar to slavery), the slave trade and forced labour; 2. The elimination of all forms of discrimination; 3. The elimination of colonialism.

As to the means whereby these objectives can be attained, the Argentine Government feels that the General Assembly should recommend the ratification of certain conventions and the conclusion of others now in preparation, as provided for in resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights. On the national plane, the most appropriate means of promoting full respect for human rights are legislation, education and the dissemination of principles through the usual channels. The machinery to be adopted (improvement of national legislation, establishment of committees, etc.) should, however, be a matter for States to decide, in accordance with their own political and administrative systems.

CANADA

/Original: English/
12 August 1964

The Canadian Government has considered carefully the views expressed so far in the Committee in support of a special international conference on human rights. It would appear from the Committee's records that although some representatives on the Committee expressed objections to the convening of a special conference in 1968, more representatives were of the view that a special international conference would be useful. Canada would have no objection to the convening of a special

international conference provided it can be shown that this would be the most practical method to ensure the effective observance of human rights throughout the world.

Before voting in favour of holding such a conference the Committee should be satisfied that it will concentrate on attainable and specific objectives, and that Governments will send to the conference qualified experts who are normally involved in work relating to the recognition of human rights within their respective countries. Before deciding this question the Committee should have before it a proposed agenda or list of heads of subjects contemplated for discussion at the conference. It would also be necessary to have a detailed statement of the financial implications of calling a special conference, as well as some idea of the proposed working methods of the conference. As a major contributor to the United Nations regular budget, Canada is anxious to ensure that the maximum progress possible in the recognition of human rights is obtained for the expenditures incurred. It would only be possible after all this information is available to decide whether the desired objectives will be better achieved through a special international conference or through perhaps a combination of special regional seminars on human rights held in conjunction with a review and evaluation of human rights in the Third Committee at a regular session of the General Assembly in 1968. In the Canadian view the overriding criterion is the impact which the proposed discussions on human rights in 1968 would have on the ordinary individual who, more than anyone else, needs to be made conscious of his basic human rights.

Participation in Programme of Measures and Activities

The specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations should be associated closely with the preparation and implementation of the various projects proposed during Human Rights Year. The non-governmental organizations are often particularly close to the general public and should have an important role to play in the celebrations dramatizing the meaning of human rights.

Calendar of Activities

It is not considered advisable only to select certain human rights for emphasis during one or two months of the Human Rights Year. No selected list of

human rights could take into account the wide range of differences in the recognition throughout the world of the various human rights. One country may more fully recognize some human rights but not others, while conditions in other countries might call for a different emphasis. The discussions in the Committee have shown that it will be almost impossible to emphasize some but not all of the twenty-nine human rights mentioned in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Measures of Implementation

The Canadian Government has on several different occasions in the General Assembly supported proposals for effective implementation measures for the rights and freedoms which are the subject of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Canada agrees with the hope expressed by the members of the Bureau of the Committee that by the beginning of the Human Rights Year the draft Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will contain effective implementation clauses. There would not seem to be any point, therefore, in the Committee discussing this problem at this stage. This subject need not be considered in the context of plans for the International Year for Human Rights until it is known what progress has been achieved on the matter after the twenty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

Observances to be Held During Human Rights Year

The suggested observances described in paragraphs 20 to 25 of Working Paper ST/SG/AC.5/3 are useful. It is difficult to agree however with the suggestion in paragraph 24 (e) that Governments consider the proclamation of Human Rights Year as a year of amnesty for prisoners. In countries where individuals are committed to prison under due process of law there is little connexion between the recognition of their human rights and measures of clemency or amnesty.

The role of incentives in achieving human rights is important and this is reflected in the lists of proposed observances. The granting of special honours and awards during Human Rights Year might be particularly useful in mobilizing the desire to excel, but the proposals contained in sub-paragraphs 25 (f) and 26 (d) should be carefully co-ordinated. The possibility might be examined of awarding one major international prize only, described as the Human Rights Prize, along the lines of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Additional Goals or Objectives

The Canadian Government agrees with the views expressed in paragraph 41 of the Working Paper and especially with the suggested complementary world-wide programme of education designed to produce new thinking on the part of many people in regard to human rights. As was mentioned in the Committee by the Philippines and Nigerian representatives, the proposed United Nations Training and Research Institute might contribute to the world-wide programme of education. The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development might also play a useful part in the programme.

COSTA RICA

[Original: Spanish]
8 September 1964

As Costa Rica is a member of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights, the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Affairs will naturally act upon the view expressed by its delegation in the Committee.

Both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Mission of Costa Rica wish to express once more their pleasure at having contributed to the realization, in the Commission on Human Rights, of the need to hold an International Conference to review the progress made in the field of human rights and to define new work targets in this sphere, which is of such great importance to mankind. We are convinced that a fine programme of measures and activities to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights will emerge from the Committee.

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]
14 August 1964

In general, the Government of Ecuador believes that one method of achieving the objectives of the International Year for Human Rights would be to intensify

efforts aimed at guaranteeing the effective protection of human rights in every sphere and at perfecting the legal processes whereby remedy may be obtained when such rights have been violated. Action by States and international bodies in this connexion should include all political and social measures which can promote the well-being of the individual, both as a private person and as a member of the community, in the fields of social security, labour, education, etc. To this end, special attention should be given to the adoption of fair taxation systems and the more equitable distribution of land.

As for the work programmes of the United Nations in the field of human rights, the Government of Ecuador advocates that these plans be directed along more effective and practical lines. For example, the processing and the examination of petitions and claims submitted to the Commission on Human Rights are at present unsatisfactory. It would be desirable to broaden the scope of the Commission's terms of reference by empowering it to conduct inquiries as to the truth of facts complained of.

On the same line of reasoning, the Government of Ecuador suggests that in the programmes for bursaries for research in the broad field of human rights special preference should be given to candidates wishing to make a study of existing agencies which are at present active in this important matter, such as the European Commission of Human Rights and the European Court of Human Rights

At the same time, the Government of Ecuador considers that it would be advisable to promote a more intensive study of the institutions for the protection of human rights which have been set up under the inter-American system. For this purpose it would be desirable to establish more contact in this field between the agencies of the United Nations and those of the Organization of American States.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

[Original: English]
8 September 1964

The Secretary-General should endeavour that the efforts of the United Nations for a codification of human rights result, not later than 1968, in a convention

concerning the establishment of an international authority for the protection of human rights. This authority should safeguard the human rights as guaranteed by national law in each case as long as there does not exist an international agreement on material human rights.

In all States that are Members of the United Nations or its specialized agencies the year 1968 should be used for the preparation of an agreement regarding also material human rights within the framework of the United Nations. For this purpose, during 1968 in all these States an increased number of meetings, seminars and lectures dealing with the basic significance of a practical realization of human rights should be held, and corresponding publications should be issued. In order to concentrate and deepen these efforts it is suggested that each month in 1968 should be dedicated to a special human right or group of human rights.

The Federal Republic of Germany intends to report to the Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1968 on the codification and safeguarding of human rights in the Federal Republic of Germany as well as on her participation in the international observation of human rights to which it has subscribed by becoming a member of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of 4 November 1950.

GREECE

[Original: English]
7 September 1964

The Royal Greek Government is agreeable to the suggestions contained in the working paper of the Committee on the International Year of Human Rights for the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the celebration of the Year.

JORDAN

[Original: English]
11 September 1964

Upon thorough examination and evaluation, the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan found the views and proposals put forward in the working paper of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights circulated in document ST/SG/AC.5/3 quite comprehensive in expressing the basic views and proposals of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the subject.

The Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan wishes, furthermore, to stress two points which it deems very worthy of observing and studying during the International Year for Human Rights namely, the proposal to make it compulsory on all Member States of the United Nations to introduce into their respective secondary schooling system, courses dealing with the principles and provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and (2) to request all Member States to review and scrutinize in good faith their respective laws and regulations for the purpose of eliminating all legislation which violates the letter and spirit of the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

SENEGAL

[Original: French]
9 September 1964

The Government of Senegal has no observations to make, at this time, on the subject of the International Year for Human Rights.

PART II

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

[Original: English]
8 September 1964

The International Telecommunication Union wishes "to be associated with any manifestation which may be organized by the members of the United Nations family" in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]
15 September 1964

General

In accordance with resolution 1961 (XVIII), adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations, particularly paragraph 3, UNESCO is prepared to offer all possible assistance to the Commission on Human Rights in the preparation of the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken during the International Year for Human Rights.

UNESCO's own main task in the field of human rights has two different but inter-linked aspects:

(i) to promote through the whole of its programme the achievement of those human rights and fundamental freedoms inscribed in the Universal Declaration which are in the Organization's particular domain; and

(ii) to promote, through education and public information, greater understanding and knowledge of the Universal Declaration.

It should be noted that the International Year for Human Rights (1968) will be preceded by International Co-operation Year (1965) and UNESCO's twentieth anniversary (1966) and that all three dates fall within the United Nations

Development Decade. A certain care would therefore be needed to avoid overlapping of effort in the commemoration of these diverse anniversaries, in view of the close relationship of the relevant programmes and activities. On the other hand, one event can redound to the benefit of the others, as the Director-General of UNESCO has observed in a document (13/C/PRG/6) concerning the commemoration of the organization's twentieth anniversary, which has been prepared for the forthcoming thirteenth session of the General Conference.

The comments hereunder bear upon the working paper by the Chairman of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights (document ST/SG/AC.5/3) and follow the sequence of that document.

Programmes of Measures and Activities to be Carried Out during Human Rights Year

(a) Calendar of Activities

Attention is drawn to the difficulty presented by the drawing up of a specific "calendar", taking into account the varying climatic conditions, school and academic years, holiday seasons and national celebrations in Member States. A similar view has already been registered with regard to the proposed calendar for International Co-operation Year.

(b) Subjects

It will be evident that the Declaration in its entirety should be the first priority for commemorative activities. At the same time, it may be necessary, on occasion, to emphasize certain of the rights embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. For UNESCO, it will be logical to recommend to Member States a more extensive treatment of article 26 concerning "the right to education", and to suggest that special attention should be paid to the fight against illiteracy. When certain individual rights are singled out, UNESCO would also recommend that due regard be paid to "the right to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits" (article 27).

Freedom of information, it is noted, heads the tentative list of subjects which have been suggested for priority in commemorative activities. Accordingly,

consideration might be given by the United Nations and UNESCO to the convening, in 1968, of a world conference on freedom of information. Such a conference, which would be at once commemorative of the Universal Declaration and the Conference on Freedom of Information held by the United Nations at Geneva in 1948, might review the technological and other advances in this field in the intervening twenty years.

Observances by Inter-governmental Organizations

(a) The Director-General is prepared to convene a commemorative ceremony at UNESCO headquarters on 10 December 1968, commensurate with the importance of the twentieth anniversary of the Declaration.

(b) Special articles will appear in UNESCO publications, particularly the UNESCO Courier, and radio programmes will be prepared.

(c) Consideration will be given to the possibility of organizing, under UNESCO's auspices, a round-table discussion in which leading personalities in the field of education, science and culture would review significant developments in the field of human rights during the preceding twenty years.

(d) It may prove to be impracticable for UNESCO itself to organize "musical, dramatic or artistic works which are illustrative of the themes of human rights and fundamental freedoms". However, the Organization will seek to encourage Member States, and in particular National Commissions for UNESCO, as well as such organizations as the International Music Council and the International Theatre Institute, to arrange for the performance and production of works illustrating these themes.

(e) With regard to the production of commemorative stamp issues, it is suggested that all such issues be concentrated on 10 December 1968, leaving it open, however, to postal administrations to choose alternative dates if they wish.

International Conference on Human Rights in 1968

It is noted that some thought has been given by the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights to the question whether an international conference on human rights in 1968 would provide an effective medium or forum for an international review in this field. If such a conference should be convened, UNESCO would be ready to contribute to the review of those rights with which the organization is particularly concerned.

National Advisory Committees

In invitations sent to Governments of Member States concerning the establishment of advisory committees on their national legislation affecting human rights, reference should be made to UNESCO National Commissions, many of which are active in this field.

Education to Promote Respect for and Observance of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

UNESCO has a continuing programme designed to promote "universal respect for human rights and eradication of racial prejudices". The long-term aim of its activities under this heading is to extend the organization's scientific purview to the wider aspects of human rights as a whole and as defined in the Universal Declaration. Certain of these activities, even prior to 1968, may prove to contribute to the aims of the International Year for Human Rights and particularly to a better understanding of the prerequisites for achievement of the rights proclaimed in the Declaration. For example, it is foreseen that in 1965 an international round-table meeting will be convened to examine the meaning and role of the concepts and aims covered by the term "human rights" and their effects on the status accorded to man in contemporary society. A further example is an international meeting of experts, contemplated for 1966, and following upon a preparatory meeting in 1964, to prepare a declaration on race and racial prejudice.

Another continuing feature of UNESCO's programme is the Convention and Recommendation against Discrimination in Education. A statement of action taken by Member States to give effect to these two international instruments might be circulated widely in conjunction with the International Year for Human Rights. Elements for the statement may be forthcoming as part of a system of submission and examination of periodic reports by Member States on measures taken to implement the Convention and Recommendation. Moreover, the Conciliation and Good Offices Commission, provided for under the Protocol to the Convention, is expected to be established by 1968. Thus it may be hoped that 1968 will coincide with the effective operation of the two principal methods for ensuring the observance by Member States of the obligations assumed under the Convention and Recommendation.

Other international instruments adopted under UNESCO's auspices also promote the achievement of human rights. Mention may be made in particular of those designed to further the aims of article 27 of the Declaration concerning the right to culture, e.g. the Universal Copyright Convention; the Convention on Neighbouring Rights, drawn up in conjunction with the International Labour Organisation and the Berne Union; and the Convention on the Protection of Cultural Property. It may be that 1968 will provide a good occasion for disseminating an account of results achieved by the organization in the performance of its constitutional responsibilities for the international regulation of issues within the purview of the Universal Declaration.

Teaching about human rights has long been a UNESCO objective, reflected in the organization's seminars for teachers and in its publications. In addition, secondary schools and teacher training institutions have been encouraged to participate in an Associated Schools Project in Education for International Understanding, in which one of the main themes of study is human rights. Plans are being developed for the provision of expert services designed ultimately to introduce teaching about human rights into curricula at the primary, secondary and teacher training levels of education. All of these activities may secure added impetus by reference to the 1968 commemoration.

Illustrative of specific projects which might be correlated with the International Year is the possibility of producing for distribution in 1968 a publication containing practical suggestions for teachers on training about human rights. Similarly, a kit of practical teaching aids might be prepared, possibly in collaboration with other interested agencies of the United Nations system. Another project might be the organization by interested National Commissions for UNESCO of essay and poster contests for school children on the theme of human rights. In the field of higher education, universities may be encouraged to organize special lectures and seminars in 1968.

A History of the Declaration

Considerable interest is evinced in the proposal for publication, under the auspices of the United Nations, of a history of the Universal Declaration. It is felt that UNESCO might be able to contribute usefully to the planning and preparation of such a work.

UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION

[Original: French]
11 September 1964

I should like to emphasize that UPU works unceasingly for the achievement of the aims fixed in its constitutive Acts and strives constantly to promote the development of the international postal service. It is guided in its international activities by the basic principles laid down at its inception, among which I should like to draw particular attention to the principle that correspondence is not subject to seizure and is inviolable. Freedom of transit and respect for correspondence are sacred principles which are basic to the postal service. This unquestionably helps to strengthen individual freedoms and thus to promote the exercise of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights.

I have carefully studied the programme prepared by the Bureau of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights, which is contained in document ST/SG/AC.5/3 of 25 June 1964.

I have nothing to add to the programme; at most, I would suggest that, in so far as its resources permit, UPU should do the following as its contribution:

- prepare a special message for 1 January 1968;
- publish a special issue of the journal Postal Union, wholly or partly devoted to commemorating the Declaration of Human Rights;
- transmit to the member countries of UPU such resolution as the United Nations may adopt regarding the issue of special postage stamps and first-day covers and the use of special cancellations during 1968.

May I further state that our organization will be glad to contribute, in so far as it can, to any activities contemplated in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]
20 August 1964

The World Health Organization is ready to co-operate in the observance of the International Year within the means at its disposal, as our representative indicated to the Committee at its first session. His statement took into account the suggestions contained in the working paper, ST/SG/AC.5/3, as well as the Committee's discussion [see ST/SG/AC.5/SR.3, pp. 11-12].

PART III

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

AFRO-ASIAN ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION

[Original: English]
19 August 1964

The Afro-Asian Organisation for Economic Co-operation "will be most willing to co-operate in any appropriate manner to achieve the purposes of the International Year for Human Rights".

CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

[Original: English]
15 September 1964

The Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations notes with particular interest resolution 6 (XX) of the Commission on Human Rights, in which the Commission singles out for special consideration by the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights the idea of convening an international conference in 1968 to (i) review the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (ii) evaluate the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of human rights; and (iii) formulate and prepare a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year.

We respectfully submit that the convening of such a conference is necessary and desirable and that it holds out the greatest promise of making a lasting contribution to the cause of human rights, as enjoined by the General Assembly in resolution 1961 (XVIII). We believe that the conference idea merits a central place in all planning for the International Human Rights Year, not only as a focus for the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration, but as a measure which corresponds to a vital and urgent need. The United Nations has under the Charter a continuing responsibility for promoting universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all. How well and

how effectively this responsibility may be carried out, now and in the future, is a question which cannot be answered without an examination of the objectives of the United Nations human rights programme and an evaluation of the methods and techniques for their achievement.

We respectfully suggest that the agenda of the proposed conference be confined to an examination and evaluation of objectives and procedures and to the elaboration of recommendations for future activities. In the light of experience, it is doubtful whether the United Nations can undertake a review of the progress which has been made in the field of human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration that would either reflect the reality of the situation or identify particular problems in need of urgent international attention or of special remedial measures. It may be recalled, for example, that one of the purposes of the system of periodic reports is to keep under review the progress made in the field of human rights. Neither this nor other purposes of the periodic reports has been realized for the reason that no procedure has yet been devised which would illuminate the facts reported and those omitted. It is not likely that such or a similar procedure will be evolved in the foreseeable future, without which a global review of progress in the field of human rights would be impractical.

The emphasis of the proposed conference must be on objectives and on methods and techniques. It is a fact, for example, that when in 1947 the United Nations committed itself to the idea of an International Bill of Human Rights consisting of a declaration, a convention and measures of implementation, it defined its objective as the achievement of international protection of human rights. Time and circumstances have conspired to undermine the unity of the International Bill and to obscure its objective, with the resultant dichotomy between its component parts. The paths of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the draft international covenants on human rights have diverged sharply, as their aims and goals have developed separately and independently. This has had a decisive influence on the evolution of the United Nations human rights programme, which has been reduced largely to activities of an expository nature relating to the provisions in the Universal Declaration. There has been very little in those activities in direct or indirect support of the objective of the International Bill, in the sense of preparing the ground for wider understanding and acceptance of the

idea of international protection of human rights. It is respectfully submitted that the proposed conference could make no greater contribution to the cause of human rights of a lasting nature than to restore the unity of the International Bill of Human Rights and the objective it embodies.

Obviously, the clearer the goals and objectives of the United Nations human rights programme are stated, the greater will be the opportunity of evaluating the validity and effectiveness of the methods and techniques employed to achieve them. It is reasonable to assume that a number of activities in which the United Nations has engaged over the years would have found no place in a programme energized and directed by specific goals and objectives, and that other activities now excluded would have enjoyed high priority. It may be assumed, for example, that if the objective of the United Nations human rights programme were, specifically, to prepare the nations for the acceptance of international protection of human rights, much of the effort would be devoted to an exploration of the issues and problems associated with the idea. Also, the efforts of the United Nations towards reducing existing disparities in legislation, practice, policy and procedure in respect to human rights, would find a specific target.

Any evaluation of United Nations methods and techniques in the field of human rights must direct its attention to the question of the educational role of the world Organization. It is respectfully suggested that the proposed conference seek, in this connexion, ways and means of enlisting the co-operation of universities, colleges and other educational institutions, learned societies and foundations in the cause of human rights and of inducing them to develop and pursue programmes of study and research covering various phases of human rights. This question has been raised on a number of occasions in the United Nations and is the subject of a resolution of the Economic and Social Council adopted in August 1963. It is a matter of immediate concern to the United Nations in connexion with its continuing responsibility for promoting human rights and calls for the establishment of a special section in the Human Rights Division to develop the necessary liaison.

Regarding the particulars of future activities, their determination must await the outcome of the examination of objectives and the evaluation of methods and techniques. But there are at least two areas of activity in which the United Nations might operate fruitfully and which do not necessarily depend on the

outcome of the conference's examination and evaluation. First, without prejudice to the international covenants and the measures for their implementation, is the need of exploring and developing the executive capacity of the United Nations in dealing with concrete human rights situations. The United Nations has on several occasions in recent years exercised executive powers in situations which are patently of a human rights character, even though its intervention has been carried out under different guises. We respectfully submit that it is in the best interests of the United Nations to give careful and serious consideration to the possibility of developing a permanent machinery for dealing with human rights situations as a matter of course, rather than to resort to improvisations under pressure of events, with all its incalculable legal and political consequences.

Second, heretofore the United Nations has concentrated largely on setting standards of human rights and exhorting Member States to abide by the ideals of the Universal Declaration. Rarely, if ever, did the United Nations recommend to Member States the adoption of procedures calculated to guarantee that the rights and freedoms vouchsafed to their citizens were better safeguarded. Perhaps the time has come for the United Nations to weigh the possibility of encouraging the universal acceptance of the idea embodied in the office of Ombudsman, which has been the subject of discussion at several seminars on human rights held in recent years under the Advisory Services Programme.

Finally, the proposed conference might usefully address itself to the problem of co-ordination of the human rights activities within the United Nations system. Such co-ordination is urgently needed to harmonize the policies and actions of the various organs of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies in the human rights area, and to guide them towards common ends. The approach to human rights issues by the General Assembly varies considerably from that of the Economic and Social Council, just as the treatment of human rights problems by the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, or by the Commission on the Status of Women, differs from that of the Commission on Human Rights. While it is true that each of these organs is governed by its own rules, which derive largely from its particular functions and political complexion, they are all subject to the same Charter. Yet the interaction among them is barely perceptible, and the absence of an integer to give unity to their various

activities and establish precedents is striking. This lack of co-ordination is perhaps one of the main reasons why the most important issues of human rights which arise in the United Nations are almost invariably dealt with outside the context of the official human rights programme.

In conclusion, the CCJO desires to state that it will avail itself of forthcoming opportunities which may be afforded to the non-governmental organizations to make additional comments and suggestions in connexion with the planning of the Human Rights Year.

COORDINATING BOARD OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

[Original: English]
9 September 1964

In our judgement any programme in connexion with that Year should concentrate, as far as possible, on practical measures calculated to help implement the principles laid down in the Universal Declaration. Demonstrations of a purely commemorative character should be reduced to an absolute minimum. With this in view, we wish to make some observations on the proposals contained in parts I to III of the document ST/SG/AC.5/3.

Calendar of activities: The idea not to devote a whole year to human rights in general, but to concentrate on one particular aspect of human rights during a shorter period (of say one month), seems in our view most desirable, provided that such a shorter period would be devoted to the taking of practical measures. If during the month in question the Governments concerned (or the non-governmental organizations) would merely arrange for lectures, radio or television programmes, etc., dealing with that aspect of human rights, little would be gained. For Governments to review their domestic legislation and the practices within their society and to give publicity to the extent to which the right or freedom has been secured would also be of minor importance. What is important is to use the Year (or the particular month) to take practical steps to secure the rights where they may not exist or where they can be strengthened. The World Refugee Year was an outstanding success because Governments, and particularly the National Committees (composed of individuals and non-governmental organizations), did not

confine themselves to preaching about the plight of the refugees but adopted concrete and practical projects to aid some particular group of refugees. The Freedom from Hunger Campaign follows the same principle. The International Year for Human Rights will be effective only if it does likewise.

We, therefore, suggest that the Committee should not select some twelve fundamental rights, each to be dealt with during one month in all countries, but should rather propose a much longer list of rights. Each Government (and the national non-governmental organizations as well) would select from that list the twelve most important rights and freedoms, which are not yet fully developed or secured in their particular country, and devote one month to each of those rights. The twelve rights referred to in paragraph 14 of the Working Paper are certainly of the greatest importance, but fortunately there are many States of the world where a number of these rights are secure. To talk of those rights in those countries for an entire month would therefore be without practical value and would tend to bore the people. If, on the other hand, different rights in different countries in different months were selected, conformity might suffer but human rights might gain - and that is the important point. Moreover, if only twelve rights were selected for the entire world, a number of very important rights, mentioned in the Universal Declaration, would be omitted altogether. Paragraph 14 of the Working Paper, for instance, does not refer to the right of everyone to have a nationality, the right of asylum, and the right of everyone to leave any country, including his own. These three rights are as yet secure only in a very limited number of countries (the Convention for the Reduction of Statelessness is not yet in force for lack of ratifications). It seems desirable that Governments or national committees of non-governmental organizations in countries where some of the twelve rights referred to in paragraph 14 are secure, should be able to choose the three above-mentioned rights (or others) for special treatment during one of the months of the Year.

CBJO welcomes most heartily the suggestions in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the Working Paper, dealing with the question of the implementation of human rights. Indeed, the International Year for Human Rights could hardly be used for a better purpose than to elaborate a system of implementing human rights internationally, regionally and nationally, through the establishment of an effective machinery.

We welcome particularly the suggestion that individuals and recognized non-governmental organizations should be given the right to submit complaints of violations of human rights to the international, regional or national organs charged with the implementation of international instruments of human rights. We wish, however, to add that competent non-governmental organizations should also be given a role where the implementation machinery takes the form of a reporting system. The well established practice of the ILO, where the non-governmental members of the tripartite United Nations specialized agency play a leading part in evaluating the report of the experts, who regularly study the application of ILO conventions and recommendations, could be taken as a basis.

CBJO would not object to any of the other activities suggested for inter-governmental organizations, for Member States and for non-governmental organizations, as proposed in paragraphs 19-27 of the working paper. However, most of these suggestions are of a demonstrative character only and are hardly calculated to lead to any immediate practical results. There is the danger that intergovernmental organizations, States and non-governmental organizations might think they have done enough, if they carry out some of the demonstrative or ceremonial activities, while in fact these activities would be useful only if supplemented by practical measures.

A few of the suggestions in these paragraphs could lead to practical results in the foreseeable future, particularly the following:

Paragraph 24 (b) "That Governments seize the opportunity of the International Year for Human Rights to redouble their efforts to bring about the signature and ratification or acceptance in any other form of existing international conventions or treaties designed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in particular spheres." (We are thinking here in particular of the Genocide Convention, the Convention on the Status of Refugees, the Convention on the Status of Stateless Persons, the Conventions on the Reduction of Statelessness, the ILO Convention on Discrimination in Employment and Occupation, the UNESCO Convention against Discrimination in Education and its Protocol);

Paragraph 24 (d) "That Governments consider entrusting the organization of the celebration of the International Year for Human Rights to an existing institution or an ad hoc committee set up for this purpose" - providing that such an institution or committee should be charged with proposing practical projects

following the example of National Committees for the World Refugee Year or the Freedom from Hunger campaign;

Paragraph 24 (e) "That Governments consider the proclamation of the International Year for Human Rights as a year of amnesty and other measures of clemency to political or other prisoners";

Paragraph 25 (b) "Governments might wish to encourage, as appropriate, schools and universities to hold special meetings on Human Rights Year and to organize special courses or seminars on human rights." This might help in educating the youth as to the importance of human rights;

Paragraph 26 (f) "To encourage local communities to establish a list of questions with a view to investigating and sounding out public opinion as to the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration."

The remainder of the suggestions in the paragraphs 19-27 of the Working Paper while welcome in themselves are not likely to have great practical results and - in case of financial implications - ought not to be given a high priority.

CBJO expresses strong doubts as to whether an international conference on human rights would prove an effective means of furthering the progress of human rights. Simply to review the progress hitherto achieved in the human rights field, in our view, would not be productive unless, at the same time, the lack of progress or even retrogression in certain areas of the world were probed and laid bare. And, if that were done, mutual recrimination would ensue, hardly conducive either to peace or to human rights. The evaluation of the effectiveness of techniques currently in use would be more useful, but a large international conference with hundreds of delegates and set speeches would not be a suitable forum. Such an evaluation might be better done by a small group of experts, and on a regional basis. Indeed, such an evaluation would be a suitable subject for regional seminars within the scope of advisory services, but not for an international conference. The preparation of a programme for future activities in the human rights field could be discussed much more effectively in a smaller forum than in a large-scale conference. A large conference could either hold a debate on human rights in general, which is unlikely to lead to any practical results or would have to be devoted to a limited special subject. Only in the latter case might practical results follow. On the other hand, a conference on a limited subject would hardly make a great impact on world public opinion.

In our view, a great international conference would be useful only in one particular contingency: namely, in the case that the International Covenants on Human Rights should have been completed or practically completed by the General Assembly. Then an international conference could be the solemn occasion of finalizing and possibly signing those conventions and giving them the publicity needed to make a real impact. In all other cases, a conference might raise unfounded hopes and lead to disappointment and discouragement if no practical results follow. As a consequence, the cause of human rights would not benefit, but suffer.

With regard to part III of the working paper (paragraphs 38-50), CBJO wishes to state that it fully endorses all the suggestions and proposals contained in that part, just as it is in full agreement with the resolution "Designation of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights" adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its thirty-seventh session. We wish to add that CBJO in co-operation with other non-governmental organizations has already embarked upon a programme oriented to encouraging Governments in those countries where we have constituents, to ratify those international human rights conventions which they have not, as yet, ratified. We are determined to continue this endeavour until 1968 and, if need be, after 1968.

CBJO is particularly interested in the chapter of the working paper headed "Education to promote respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms." While endorsing fully the sentiments expressed in this chapter we would like to add the following practical suggestions:

(a) That all educational institutions be urged to give recognition to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its objectives and should integrate them into the existing curriculum. Thus, elementary and high school curricula should be called upon to include the study of the Universal Declaration in such subjects as social studies and history. In addition, educational institutions might be urged to incorporate the study of prejudice, discrimination, minority rights and freedom into such curriculum courses as social problems, civics and history. On the college and university level, the study of prejudice and discrimination could be integrated into such courses as psychology, sociology, history, political science and Government.

We particularly recommend that emphasis be given to urging the adoption of such proposals in institutions of teacher education. Surveys in a number of countries have indicated that very little is being done to prepare teachers to teach about the problems concerning human rights, minority groups, prejudice and discrimination.

(b) Formal instruction in the schools, however, is not the only avenue of education. Many non-governmental agencies having youth and adult programmes engage in educational activities. We would suggest that these agencies be requested to include in their educational programmes on a continuing basis a recognition of the Universal Declaration and the related matters of prejudice, discrimination and minority groups.

(c) Among the obstacles in the path of international understanding and of understanding of human rights generally, are the differences of viewpoints which appear in the history textbooks that are used in various nations. We would suggest that an international study of textbooks be launched. Such a study might examine the problems arising from such differences and propose methods for solving them.

(d) There is a pressing need for additional research on human rights and on the universality of prejudice and discrimination. We suggest, therefore, that appropriate agencies such as foundations, universities and other institutions be asked to mark the celebration of International Human Rights Year by inaugurating research on selected aspects of human rights. The international exchange of information on research should be encouraged. A summary of all research in this field is now prepared annually in the United States and could be made available. The proposed international exchange of research ideas, designs and conclusions would encourage social scientists in various countries to undertake additional studies, should help improve techniques, and should aid in the education process generally.

In sum, we strongly believe that the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should not be an end in itself. The celebration should be used to begin a process, especially in education, which would continue indefinitely. Specifically, we suggest that the study of the Universal Declaration, human rights and related problems of prejudice and discrimination be built into the curricula and programme of schools, institutions and agencies, both public and private.

INTERNATIONAL ABOLITIONIST FEDERATION

/Original: Fren
4 September 19

One of the main purposes of IAF is to eliminate the exploitation of the prostitution of others and particularly any interference with the freedom of pe engaging in prostitution, whether they are forced to do so by pimps, by brothel keepers or by traffickers in persons.

The 1949 United Nations General Assembly adopted in this matter an excelle convention which, if universally applied, would put an end to this type of interference with personal freedom: the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others.

Only a little more than thirty States have ratified or acceded to this Convention.

Under item (iii) - "to formulate and prepare a programme of further measur to be taken subsequent to the celebration of Human Rights Year"- for the International Conference of 1968 proposed in connexion with the celebration of the Year, we should like the Conference to have on its agenda the consideration of means to achieve a speedy and substantial increase in the number of States bound by the United Nations conventions on human rights, and particularly by th Convention mentioned above.

WORLD CONFEDERATION OF ORGANIZATIONS OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION

/Original: Englis
14 September 196

WCOTP has consistently worked for the cause of human rights through educat including a special feature in Education Panorama on the occasion of the fiftee anniversary of the Declaration. We believe firmly that the public schools prov one of the major channels for the promotion of human rights and will continue work for this cause at all times.

In relation to the plans for 1968 being prepared by your Committee on the International Year for Human Rights, we would urge that special emphasis be pla

on the right to education as the foundation on which other rights can be built. In fact, I would suggest that other rights are diminished without the right to an education of quality and depth.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF SENIOR POLICE OFFICERS

[Original: French]
20 August 1964

If the preparation of a draft "Code of police ethics (or duties)" by IFSPO would be considered a suitable contribution to the cause of human rights as understood by the United Nations General Assembly, we could submit a programme of work and discuss the conditions for its execution with your Division.

UNIVERSAL ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION

[Original: English]
28 August 1964

We do think it a good idea to hold a special International Conference in 1968 in order to discuss the questions mentioned in your letter. Furthermore, we consider that it would be useful to organize throughout the whole of 1968 an especially intensive publicity campaign concerning the Universal Declaration, through the media of the press, radio and television, lectures (particularly in schools and universities), international seminars and discussion groups. Such a campaign should reach its climax on the actual date of the twentieth anniversary.

It is our opinion that in this vast programme NGO's could and should play an outstanding role. Our Association will most certainly take part, both directly and through its national affiliates, local societies and specialized organizations. Our Association would also wish to take part in the work of the said International Conference, should this idea be realized.

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/4/Add.1
1 October 1964
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Observations Received from Governments, Specialized Agencies, and Non-Governmental Organizations

		Pages
Part I.	Observations Received from Governments	
	Jamaica	2
	Laos	3
	Netherlands	3
	Republic of Viet-Nam	4
Part II.	Observations Received from Specialized Agencies	
	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations . .	6
Part III.	Observations Received from Non-Governmental Organizations	
	International League for the Rights of Man	7
	International Council of Social Democratic Women	10

Part I

Observations Received from Governments

JAMAICA

[Original: English]
29 September 1964

The Permanent Representative of Jamaica worked in collaboration with the officers of the Committee on the Working Paper on the "Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken in Connexion with the International Year for Human Rights" so that it incorporated the views of the Jamaica Government, and therefore any further comments must of necessity be brief. They are as follows:

1. Proposed International Conference

The Jamaica Government had envisaged from the time of proposing the resolution on the International Year for Human Rights that the international review of the progress achieved in the field of human rights should be undertaken by means of a conference convened expressly and exclusively for that purpose. In the opinion of the Government no other method of undertaking the review will be equally satisfactory.

2. Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken during 1968

International Conferences on Freedom of Information

The Government of Jamaica proposes that the Committee consider whether it would be practicable to invite and encourage the leading newspapers and news services in various parts of the world to hold an international conference or a series of regional conferences on freedom of information early in the year 1968. This proposal does not envisage a conference (or conferences) under the auspices of the United Nations, but rather that the newspapers and the news services should be entirely responsible for the organization.

LAOS

[Original: French]
1 September 1964

Individual freedom

The United Nations should draw up a real charter of individual freedom, to which all Member States should accede; this charter should include very strict rules concerning:

The right of the individual to be protected against arbitrary or unlawful arrest or detention on the part of the public authorities;

The right of the individual to be protected against any arbitrary or unlawful assault on his person on the part of the public authorities.

Freedom of conscience and religious freedom

Member States should give a sincere account of their work to promote religious freedom, or at least religious tolerance, and freedom of conscience.

Racial discrimination

Lastly, all forms of racial discrimination should be abolished.

NETHERLANDS

[Original: English]
15 September 1964

The Government of the Netherlands carefully studied the contents of Working Paper ST/SG/AC.5/3 suggesting a programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the international year for human rights, as well as the summary records of the first round of discussions in the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights.

The comments to which these documents give rise already having been expressed in general by the Netherlands delegate in the Committee (ST/SG/AC.5/SR.3), the Netherlands Government prefers to limit itself at this stage to stressing two observations which it deems of greater importance.

Without anticipating the decision whether or not an International Conference on Human Rights be held in 1968, the Netherlands Government is of the opinion that in the affirmative case financial considerations make it imperative to have this Conference substitute the three regional seminars which in 1968 normally will take place in the framework of the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights. The funds to be set aside in the budget for 1968 for these advisory services could thus be made available for the International Conference.

The suggestion contained in paragraph 38 of document ST/SG/AC.5/3, viz., to prepare and complete an entirely new convention to be added to the list of international instruments which should be completed and opened for ratification before the end of 1968 seems well-nigh impossible to realize. The agenda of the Third Committee of the General Assembly already is over-burdened with international instruments, many of which are of an urgent character and await completion already for a long time, as for instance the international covenants on human rights and the various instruments with respect to racial discrimination, religious intolerance, right of asylum, freedom of information etc. It must be feared that at this stage a further extension of the existing codification programme in the field of human rights will bring about still greater stagnation and result in causing disappointment and frustration of the public opinion.

REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM

[Original: French]
17 September 1964

The Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam can but welcome the fitting decision of the United Nations to designate 1968, the twentieth anniversary of the proclamation of the Declaration, as International Year for Human Rights, in which to review the progress made in that field and to prepare new plans for the years to come.

In the opinion of the Government of the Republic of Viet-Nam it would be desirable to include in the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken during that anniversary year an active campaign whereby the principles that inspired the Declaration of Human Rights would be propagated and disseminated in countries where fundamental human freedoms are trampled underfoot in the most outrageous manner.

It would also be desirable for the United Nations to undertake to promote, by all appropriate means, the provision of education and assistance for ethnic minorities, so that they may attain the same level of culture as the more advanced dominant national groups with whom they form one people.

Part II

Observations Received from Specialized Agencies

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

[Original: English]
16 September 1964

At the last General Assembly at the Third Committee [FAO] proposed the inclusion of an article in the Draft Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in order to give recognition to man's right to freedom from hunger. [FAO's] proposal was accepted, and adopted by the Third Committee. Consequently, FAO has a special interest that the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights should include in its programme man's right to freedom from hunger, and that it should be one of the items to be selected for special treatment among the subjects to be focused upon during the year. If this is agreed, we in FAO could organize commemorative ceremonies to that effect.

As regards the International Conference on Human Rights, FAO itself is hoping to convene another World Food Congress in 1968 in pursuance of a resolution passed at the first World Food Congress. This resolution urges the holding of a World Food Congress periodically to review a world survey, presented by the Director-General of FAO, of the world food situation in relation to population and over-all development, together with a proposed programme for future action. Because this Congress would review matters having a direct bearing on man's right to freedom from hunger, its principal conclusions and recommendations could very well be highlighted at the proposed International Conference if the World Food Congress takes place beforehand.

[FAO is] also in agreement with the several other measures and activities already discussed by the Committee vide Working Paper ST/SG/AC.5/3. [FAO is] ready to participate in all of them to the extent that its resources will permit.

Part III

Observations Received from Non-Governmental Organizations

THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR THE RIGHTS OF MAN

[Original: English]
22 September 1964

The International League for the Rights of Man has the honour to submit the following observations on document ST/SG/AC.5/3.

We congratulate the Chairman of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights for his valuable contribution in drawing together and formulating suggestions as to measures and activities that might be undertaken by inter-governmental organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights (1968). In our view, if these suggestions were effectively implemented, they would contribute materially to the advancement of human rights in the participating countries. In assessing them, as well as further suggestions that may be forthcoming, the Committee will naturally wish to consider not only their desirability but also their feasibility.

In paragraph 13 (Part I), the Working Paper suggests that "a series of subjects dealing with particular aspects of human rights should be selected" with a view to focusing continuing attention on each of these subjects throughout a particular period of the Year. During each period, Governments would review, against the standards of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, their domestic legislation and practice in the particular area, would make special efforts to promote understanding among their citizens of the nature and significance of the rights in question, and would endeavour to bring them up to standard.

We find this an exciting and imaginative proposal and hope it will be approved. We support it, even though we recognize it may prove difficult to implement, except to a limited degree, in some countries. But even partial implementation can contribute materially to the goals of the Year.

In paragraphs 16-18, it is suggested that if by 1968 the Draft Covenants on Human Rights together with effective measures of implementation have not been adopted, one of the objects of the Observance should be to promote support for effective national and international organs of international implementation to which NGOs and other private groups could bring complaints of human rights violations.

We believe this is an important proposal and hope the Committee will approve it.

Paragraphs 20-27 present a catalogue of proposed activities, many modelled on projects undertaken in connexion with the observance of the 15th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Many of these suggestions have proven valuable in the past and should receive the Committee's approval. No one can doubt, for example, the value of disseminating the Declaration in as many languages as possible; or of encouraging television and radio to produce documentary or dramatic programmes relating to human rights.

On the other hand, we wonder whether certain of these proposed activities, because of their inherently general character (for example, the issuance of human rights stamps by Member States), may not be of illusory value. We wonder, in fact, whether it might not be warranted to delete some of the lesser proposals in order that the more promising ones might be highlighted and enlarged upon: for example, that Governments proclaim the Year as an occasion for a grant of amnesty and other measures of clemency to political prisoners; that schools and universities organize courses and seminars on human rights, and that NGOs encourage communities to prepare lists of questions with a view to assessing the communities' effectiveness in promoting the principles of the Declaration.

One of the most interesting suggestions, discussed in Part II of the Working Paper, is that relating to the proposed International Conference on Human Rights in 1968, envisaged as having three functions: (1) review of progress made in human rights since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (2) evaluation of the effectiveness of techniques currently in use by the United Nations in the field of human rights; and (3) preparation of a programme of further measures to be undertaken after 1968.

The Human Rights Commission resolution, by which the Committee was asked to consider this proposal, did not indicate the nature of the sponsorship of and participation in the proposed conference. The Working Paper expresses a preference for a specially organized conference of States rather than sponsorship by one of the specialized agencies or the setting aside of part of the General Assembly's regular session for the purpose.

We strongly endorse the idea of such a conference in 1968, and agree that it should be a specially arranged conference of Governments. While we recognize the obstacles and limitations of an inter-governmental conference in dealing with the suggested themes, we believe it is possible to find ways of avoiding the difficulties. For example, a formula might be adopted whereby each Government would nominate one or more experts to take part in the conference in their private capacities, and accredited non-governmental organizations might be invited to designate official observers. Alternatively, regional seminars, held simultaneously in the major regions of the world, might be devoted to the subjects proposed, and followed up by a review of the results during a period allocated from the 1968 session of the General Assembly.

On the substantive side, we wonder whether the first of the three proposed conference themes - review of progress made in the field of human rights since 1948 - is feasible, and whether the conference might not prove more manageable and productive if principal attention was centred on the second and third themes, namely, evaluation of techniques currently in use by the United Nations, as such, and preparation of a programme of revised or new measures that might be undertaken. While we would welcome a genuine review of human rights progress, including areas of difficulty, we are concerned that if the review should be conducted in general terms, it may not shed much light on the real issues; and if, on the other hand, it should be made specific, it may break down under the weight of polemic.

We endorse the goals specified in paragraph 39, regarding efforts to encourage ratification of human rights conventions. On the other hand, though we recognize the merit of the proposal to select certain additional practical goals - that is, to seek the elimination by the end of 1968 of some of the grosser forms of human rights denials persisting in the territories of certain States - we question the practicability of the proposal. Thus, the goals of eliminating all forms of discrimination and of colonialism, or of achieving freedom and independence for all countries, are too complex and encompassing to constitute a practical programme for the Year. Rather, we would suggest more tangible goals of an institutional nature along lines of those proposed in paragraphs 16-18.

We view favourably the suggestion in paragraph 42, that all Governments be invited to establish advisory committees of independent and impartial individuals to assess by 1967 the entire body of national legislation against the standards of the Universal Declaration, and to recommend changes needed to bring legislation into conformity with these standards by 1968. We can see value even in partial implementation of this proposal, which is the most that can be expected in many countries.

We endorse the general suggestions contained in paragraphs 45-48, that efforts be made to mobilize the resources of primary as well as secondary schools and other institutions of higher learning; of the press, radio and television, and of foundations and charitable institutions, to participate in the process of human rights education. We hope the Committee will spell out these suggestions in somewhat more detail.

Naturally, programmes to mobilize these resources would take varying forms in different States. While in some, Governments would be expected to play an active role, in others, governmental initiative would not be the most effective way to achieve the objectives sought. In the matter of governmental role, we hope the educational processes will not become solely devices for endorsing or saluting existing governmental policies and practices.

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC WOMEN

[Original: English]
15 September 1964

National affiliates of the International Council of Social Democratic Women "when planning their conferences, seminars, study weeks, etc., will use themes connected with Human Rights. They will also give publicity in their journals to various aspects of the problem".

ST

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/4/Add.2
13 October 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Observations received from Governments and non-governmental organizations

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

Addendum

CONTENTS

		Page
PART I.	OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
	China	2
	Iran	3
	Italy	4
	Liberia	4
	Poland	4
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	5
PART II.	OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
	The Associated Country Women of the World	8
	World University Service	8

64-21481

/...

PART I

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

CHINA

[Original: English]
30 September 1964

The Government of China is in general agreement with the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights as contained in working paper ST/SG/AC.5/3. The Chairman and other officers of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights are to be congratulated for having formulated the programme, which, in the view of the Chinese Government, constitutes a sound basis for the preparation of the International Year.

In addition to the measures and activities listed in the programme, the Committee might wish to consider the desirability of inviting Member States to designate national correspondents on human rights, who should be highly competent jurists or scholars concerned with problems of human rights. The correspondents could assist the Commission on Human Rights or other organs in making studies or supplying information on human rights and fundamental freedoms; they could offer suggestions from time to time relating to the United Nations programme of human rights. If each Member State were to participate, through its officially designated correspondent, in the United Nations activities in the field of human rights, the human rights programme as a whole could become more dynamic and effective.

Another measure which could be undertaken would be to invite Member States to encourage the production of films and records, of a documentary or dramatic character, on historic events, great proclamations, or famous institutions relating to the protection of human rights. Such films and records could be deposited with the United Nations for distribution to Member States at their request. They could be telecast or broadcast widely, especially during the International Year for Human Rights.

IRAN

[Original: English]
7 October 1964

After careful study of the Working Paper ST/SG/AC.5/3, suggesting programmes of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights, the Government of Iran has found the views and proposals expressed therein are in accord with its views on this subject and is of the opinion that an international conference in 1968 would be useful and desirable for the purpose of:

1. reviewing the progress which has been made in the field of Human Rights;
2. evaluating the effectiveness of the methods and techniques used by the United Nations in the field of Human Rights; and
3. formulating and preparing a programme of further measures to be taken subsequent to the 20th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The Government of Iran fully shares the views expressed by the Representative of the Philippines at the third meeting of the Committee, in that proper emphasis on research and training in the field of human rights should be given in the programme and curriculum of the United Nations Institute on Research and Training [General Assembly resolutions 1827 (XVII) and 1934 (XVIII)].

The Government of Iran suggests that in accordance with the ECOSOC resolution 958 DI (XXXVI), training courses on Human Rights should be included in the curricula of the existing Regional United Nations Institutes as well as those of the specialized agencies, in particular ILO and UNESCO. In addition, an effort should be made towards inclusion of such courses in the curricula of universities and institutes throughout the world (ECOSOC resolution 958 DI (XXXVI)).

The Government of Iran is also of the opinion that the present United Nations programme of Advisory Services in the field of Human Rights should be maintained and further expanded.

ITALY

[Original: English]
12 October 1964

As the Italian delegate on the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights stated at the third meeting of the Committee, held on 8 July, the Italian Government welcomes the proposals contained in the Working Paper submitted by the Chairman in collaboration with the officers of the Committee (ST/SG/AC.5/3).

The Italian Government in particular welcomes the measures for the effective implementation of the rights and freedoms contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, measures that - the Italian Government hopes - will contribute to transforming the principles of the Declaration into binding legal obligations.

LIBERIA

[Original: English]
8 October 1964

The Government of Liberia has thoroughly examined the working paper on the "Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken in Connexion with the International Year for Human Rights" and finds that the proposals contained in the said working document correspond to the basic views of the Government of Liberia on the subject matter.

In addition, the Government of Liberia wishes to propose that in the course of the observance of the International Year for Human Rights all Member States should lay emphasis on the abolition of all forms of racial discrimination. It also proposes that all Member States undertake, through their Ministries of Education of other appropriate government agencies, the teaching in their schools of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights so as to promote respect for human rights and the removal of racial prejudice.

POLAND

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

/Original: English/
2 October 1964

Her Majesty's Government welcome the Bureau's Working Paper (ST/SG/AC.5/3) containing proposals for the celebration of 1968 as International Year for Human Rights and designed to make "a lasting contribution to the cause of Human Rights". Her Majesty's Government fully support the view that an energetic effort should be made by the United Nations and Member States to achieve a fuller and more effective realization of the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the time the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration is celebrated in 1968.

With regard to the proposed intensification of efforts in the field of human rights between now and 1968, Her Majesty's Government hope that the United Nations organs mainly concerned with the implementation of the principles of the Declaration, the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Commission and its Sub-Commission, will be able to make substantial progress in completing the projects which are at present before them. In particular, they hope that the Assembly will complete consideration of the draft international covenants on human rights, including effective international measures of implementation, as soon as possible. Her Majesty's Government also attache importance to the early completion by the Assembly of a draft declaration and convention against all forms of religious intolerance.

Her Majesty's Government have the following comments on the Bureau's Working Paper:

Part I

Paragraph 13. Her Majesty's Government doubt whether it is necessary or practicable to seek to secure that all Member States focus attention on the same particular rights or freedoms at the same periods of the International Year and they would point out that the review by Governments of domestic legislati

(part III of Working Paper). They also consider that the selection of rights as subjects for this purpose may be invidious; they consider it important that freedom of opinion and expression, which includes freedom of information, should be included in any such list of rights.

Paragraphs 16 to 18. Her Majesty's Government welcome the importance which the Bureau gives to the implementation of the draft international covenants and to the necessity for national machinery to give effect to rights and freedoms and provide effective remedies for their violation; they suggest that proposals to achieve this latter object should be included in Part III of the Working Paper. So far as the question of the implementation of the human rights covenants is concerned, it seems to them that the appropriateness of the measures suggested will depend on the stage which the consideration of this subject has reached in the General Assembly.

Paragraphs 19 to 26. Her Majesty's Government consider that the recommendations are exhaustive and a useful basis for further consideration by the Assembly, by specialized agencies and by non-governmental organizations and Her Majesty's Government will reserve detailed proposals until that stage.

Her Majesty's Government welcome the proposals to invite non-governmental organizations to take part in the celebration of the International Year because of the contribution that they can make to the creation and expression of public opinion.

Part II

Her Majesty's Government remain to be convinced of the value of holding an international conference in 1968. A review of progress and the preparation of a programme for future activities are not tasks which a conference could possibly fulfil unless the basis for such work had been laid by careful consideration and documentation by expert bodies beforehand, as indeed the Bureau proposes for the further task of the evaluation of techniques. It seems to Her Majesty's Government that all these matters must first be carefully studied within the United Nations

the United Nations which are fully competent to deal with questions of human rights, namely the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Human Rights Commission and its sub-Commission.

Part III

Paragraph 42. Her Majesty's Government are in agreement with the Bureau that all Member States should examine in the period before 1968 their existing law and practice in the light of the provisions of the Universal Declaration and consider in what respects these fall short of the aims set forth in the Declaration and what steps can be taken to give fuller and more effective realization to the rights and freedoms which the Declaration proclaims. They consider however, that the methods by which this task should be carried out should be left to Governments to decide and that the proposed National Advisory Committee constitute only one and not necessarily the most appropriate method for this purpose.

Paragraph 45. Her Majesty's Government fully agree with the Bureau that there are limits to the effectiveness of laws in making any of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed by the Declaration a reality and that education is necessary to root out prejudices and give laws a firm basis in public opinion. Accordingly they welcome the emphasis on education in the Bureau's proposals, on which they will give more detailed comments at an appropriate stage of the discussions on them.

PART II

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

[Original: English]
29 September 1964

The Associated Country Women of the World feel, in view of the number of campaigns envisaged which come under the umbrella of ECOSOC, that a more effective form of participation by the public and specialized agencies in celebrating events in the United Nations would be made if such events were co-ordinated with existing campaigns. They feel that to celebrate 1968 as International Year for Human Rights should form part of the present Development Decade rather than being an event in itself.

In commenting on the activities suggested in the Working Paper ST/SG/AC.5/3 which NGOs might carry out during International Year for Human Rights, ACWW feels that the printing of the text of the Declaration of Human Rights is a burden for NGOs. We would suggest that the text might be printed by the United Nations and sold to the NGOs who could then distribute it.

ACWW further suggests that for NGOs to adopt the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, or articles thereof, as the theme of their annual or special conferences in 1968 might prove difficult, but that it would be easier if NGOs were asked simply to adopt it as the subject for a discussion group in an annual or special conference.

WORLD UNIVERSITY SERVICE

[Original: English]
28 September 1964

and world campaigns. Although WUS fully supports the aims and purposes of these manifestations, we feel that there is a danger of creating apathy among the general public by too many "Years". You will also appreciate that it is somewhat difficult for a number of NGOs, which carry our on-going programmes which in many cases are based on the principles which the special Years are supposed to highlight, to intensify their efforts in too many directions. You will know that many NGOs are closely connected with the Freedom From Hunger Campaign, with the planned UNESCO Illiteracy Campaign, with the World Co-Operation Year, and may be involved in the World Campaign against Hunger, Disease and Ignorance, if this materializes. [We] sincerely hope that the Committee which is drawing up the plans for 1968 as Human Rights Year will keep in mind the necessity of varying the approach to the public in order to achieve the hoped-for success.

UNITED NATIONS

SECRETARIAT

ST

Distr.
GENERAL

ST/SG/AC.5/4/Add.3
16 October 1964

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMITTEE ON THE INTERNATIONAL
YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Item 4 of the agenda

PROGRAMME OF MEASURES AND ACTIVITIES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN CONNEXION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Observations received from Governments and non-governmental organizations

Memorandum by the Secretary-General

Addendum

CONTENTS

		Page
PART I.	OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	
	Japan	2
	Philippines	2
PART II.	OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS	
	World Veterans Federation	4
	International Conference of Catholic Charities	6
	World Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations	6

PART I

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

JAPAN

[Original: English]
12 October 1964

The Government of Japan has no particular suggestions or proposals to offer at this moment for the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with the International Year for Human Rights.

PHILIPPINES

[Original: English]
15 October 1964

As a member of the Committee on the International Year for Human Rights, the Philippine delegate collaborated with the Chairman and other officers of the Committee in the preparation of the working paper, "Programme of Measures and Activities to be Undertaken in Connexion with the International Year for Human Rights" (ST/SG/AC.5/3). The views of the Philippine Government are, therefore, reflected in that working paper. At this juncture, the Philippine Government would like to emphasize some points which are mentioned in the aforementioned document and to which it attaches considerable importance:

(a) The Committee should give priority to those activities which will help bring about substantial progress in the advancement of human rights. The activities undertaken should not be merely commemorative in nature; they should aim at truly contributing to the actual enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

(b) The setting up of national advisory committees "to examine the national constitution or fundamental law and all existing national legislation against the standard of the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to consider in what respects the legislation falls short of this standard, and to suggest to the Government the enactment of

amending laws to bring the national legislation into conformity with the principles of the Declaration", will be highly useful. The fact that the reports of these committees are to be submitted not later than the end of 1967 could contribute to the preparatory work of the proposed international conference on human rights in 1968.

(c) An international conference on human rights, in whatever form it may be held, must have specific objectives if it is at all to be successful. A review of progress in human rights is much needed and a conference organized for this purpose could generate fresh interest and positive action among Member States.

(d) The establishment and refinement of national machineries for the implementation of human rights and freedoms will be an important step.

(e) The role of education in removing prejudice and discriminatory attitudes is a central one. Since education is a continuous process, the Committee, with the help of appropriate specialized agencies, could find effective ways and means by which the inculcation of respect for human rights and individual freedoms could be effectively brought about among children, adolescents and adults. The Committee should envisage these educational activities as part of the celebration for the International Year for Human Rights.

PART II

OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

WORLD VETERANS FEDERATION

[Original: English]
12 October 1964

Our Executive Board has authorized the following observations on behalf of our Federation:

Paragraph 13

The World Veterans Federation welcomes the concept of a calendar of activities which would provide a focus for assessment and improvement by Governments of their actions in these fields. We also consider it as the best means of maximizing the collective efforts of the various non-governmental organizations who can concentrate their activities accordingly and in keeping with their individual spheres of interest. We would particularly urge that the governmental assessments be published in full and publicly.

Paragraphs 16 to 18

The World Veterans Federation fully concurs with the desirability of seeing the draft covenants adopted by the end of 1968. We would wish to underline, however, the sentiment expressed in the referenced paragraphs that the adoption of implementing machinery as an integral part of these covenants is vitally important. We would not wish to urge the adoption of the covenants in or before 1968 without such machinery. We would also wish to suggest that the current triennial reports be put on an annual basis and that the full reports and not just summaries be made available to organizations with competence in these fields. Further, we are whole-heartedly in agreement with the importance which has been placed upon the complementary development of national institutions for the protection of human rights. At its Council meeting in May of this year, the World Veterans Federation has decided upon a programme furthering such objectives through

Paragraphs 26 and 27

The World Veterans Federation is prepared to consider which of the suggested actions by non-governmental organizations would be most appropriate for us to undertake and there may be others which we can suggest. We note that the current listing does not mention the possibility of featuring articles in the periodicals of such organizations and suggest that this be added. In C 26a, it is suggested that special conferences might be held but the potential of seminars might also be added. Also the non-governmental organizations might have a role to play in helping to urge the signature and ratification of treaties and conventions as suggested in B 24(b).

We wonder if the Committee has considered the possibility of establishing some sort of central co-ordinating and information point for the Year's activities. We believe that such a central point could have a reinforcing and stimulative effect through providing examples, reminders and information upon what other bodies are doing.

Paragraphs 28-37

The World Veterans Federation strongly supports the idea of holding an international conference as outlined in the referenced paragraphs. We believe that such a conference should be envisaged with the extensive participation in preparation and implementation by non-governmental organizations with competence in these fields.

Paragraph 40

The World Veterans Federation concurs in the desirability of the objectives listed in the referenced paragraph. While we feel that their achievement may not prove possible during the International Year for Human Rights, we do feel that an intensified effort should be made to establish institutions which are a prerequisite for the achievement of these objectives. We further feel that the sub-paragraph (3) needs clarification as to what exactly is intended.

Paragraph 45

We would like to suggest that "national and international voluntary

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC CHARITIES

[Original: English]
9 October 1964

The [International Conference of Catholic charities has] considerable interest in the International Year for Human Rights but at present [has] no specific suggestions or proposals for the programme of measures and activities to be undertaken in connexion with it.

WORLD ALLIANCE OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

[Original: English]
3 August 1964

We would like to join in the observation of this year as we have been and are happy to co-operate with the United Nations in many other projects.